

Town of Wiseman  
(Bettles vicinity,) Yukon-Koyukuk Division  
Alaska

HABS No. AK-25

HABS  
AK,  
23-WISMA,  
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WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, DC 20013-7127

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE ALASKA	COUNTY Yukon-Koyukuk Division	TOWN OR VICINITY BETTLES VICINITY
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) TOWN OF WISEMAN (National Park Service Files)		HABS NO. AK-25
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) On the west bank of the Middle Fork of the Koyukuk River at the mouth of Wiseman Creek		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) Founded 1911 (NPS files)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Following a gold strike on the Hammond River, the community of Wiseman developed around Wright's Roadhouse, reaching its peak of activity in 1915. This was the northernmost gold rush in the United States. In 1925 Noel Wien, Alaskan aviator, flew the first plane in.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) see separate page for district sketch map		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES By 1911, Wiseman had two stores. During the period of 1910-1920, many buildings from Coldfoot were moved to Wiseman. By 1944 both the store and the school closed. There were 21 people living in the Wiseman area in 1952 and twenty years later the population was down to 9. In 1982: 38 extant structures.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Park Service files; see additional sheet for bibliography		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Sandra M. Faulkner, Historian, National Park Service		DATE June 18, 1986

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM: Continuation Sheet

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